treatment of animals (especially cattle) during the slaughtering process in India;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take for controlling and enforcing prevention of cruelty to animals in the legal and illegal slaughter houses in the country; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check illegal traffic of cattle to Bangladesh, where they are slaughtered in a most cruel and inhuman manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has not received any declaration against cruel and inhuman treatment of animals from PETA. However Government of India has already formulated and notified the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001, under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. These Rules have been circulated to the State Governments, Districts Authorities and others for controlling and enforcing prevention of cruelty to animals in the slaughter houses in the country.

(c) Under Rule 96 of the Transport of Animals Rules, 1978 as amended upto 2001, a valid certificate is required to-be obtained by any person making transport of animals from an officer or any person or animal welfare organization duly recognized and authorized for this purpose by the Animal Welfare Board of India or the Central Government. These Rules are in force in the entire country except Jammu & Kashmir. The offenders for violation of these Rules can be prosecuted by the Police or the persons authorized by the State Government.

White Paper on Pollution in Delhi

1083. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the Government had made public a white paper on tackling pollution in Delhi in the year 1997-98; and

(b) if so, the action taken in respect of the decisions Government had announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has brought out a White Paper on Pollution in Delhi with an Action Plan for the prevention and control of pollution in the National Capital Region of Delhi during 1997-98. It contained action plan corresponding to issues such as air pollution with specific reference to vehicular pollution, water pollution, solid waste management, industrial pollution and noise "pollution. It also included setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for treatment of waste water from the human settlement as well as the industries.

(b) The Government has taken several actions to curb the pollution in Delhi, which include:—

* Improvement in fuel quality.

* Measures to control fuel adulteration.

* Improvement in vehicular technology.

* Conversion of vehicle fleet, i.e. buses, autos, taxis to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) mode.

* Use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plant stations.

* Closure of brick kilns, hot-mix plants and stone crushers in National Capital Territory of Delhi.

* Source specific noise standards for generator sets, fire crackers and other industries have been notified to curb noise pollution.

* Augmentation of sewage treatment capacity and capacity utilisation.

* Three STPs have been installed under the Yamuna Action Plan Phase I which help to treat municipal waste water.

* Bio-medical Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules and Rules for Flyash Utilization have been notified.

* 1328 hazardous and noxious industries have been closed by the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court.